

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA-0415**

**Dr. J.W. Waugh House**

**621 East Belfast Road**

**Sparks, Baltimore County**

**Ca. 1830**

**Private**

The Dr. J.W. Waugh House is located in the vicinity of Sparks and Philopolis in the Eighth District of Baltimore County. In 1850, Dr. M.C. Price occupied the original brick portion of the house. It was circa 1880 when the Gothic Revival style addition was constructed on the dwelling, most likely during the property's ownership by Dr. J.W. Waugh. The village of Philopolis Post Office, was already beginning to thrive by the mid-19th century. By 1915, the village's name had fallen out of general use. As early as 1850, the village of Sparks and the road that connected it to Philopolis, were non-existent. The land that later became the community, lying east of the Gunpowder Falls, was traversed only by a few farms. By 1877, Sparks Road had been constructed from York Road in Philopolis to its terminus at Carroll Road. The village formed around the Sparks station along the Northern Central Railroad, and included only a school and a few dwellings along Sparks Road. By 1915, a post office was established in the village. By the mid-20th century, the village of Sparks had declined. The area has come to encompass the neighboring community of Philopolis.

Fronting northwest, the Dr. J.W. Waugh House sits back from Belfast Road near the town of Sparks. The two-and-a-half story vernacular dwelling was constructed circa 1830 and features a circa 1880 Cottage Gothic Revival-style addition. The main block of the house is constructed of brick and features a side gable roof with wood shingles. The façade or northwest elevation features a one-story, four-bay wide front porch with a shed roof and chamfered wood posts. The original entry has been infilled with brick and the current entry is offset with a panel-and-light, single-leaf door with a molded wood surround and brick jack arch lintel. A six-light vinyl replacement casement window lies to the east of the door. At the second story, there are two 6/6 windows. Like the entry, the windows have molded wood surrounds and brick jack arch lintels. A center gable peak has been added to the roof of the main block. It is clad in variegated wood shingles and has a two-light fixed window with a pointed arch. The circa 1880 addition is constructed of wood frame with weatherboard cladding. The main entry of the house now sits in this addition along the northeast elevation. This entry, framed by a portico, features a panel-and-light, single-leaf door with four-light sidelights and an eight-light transom. Two interior brick chimneys with corbelled caps rise from the addition. Historic outbuildings, dating from the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century, include a smokehouse, privy, and garage.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0415

### 1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic Dr. J.W. Waugh House (preferred), Blackacre

other

### 2. Location

street and number 621 East Belfast Road not for publication

city, town Sparks vicinity

county Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Leah B. McAfee

street and number 621 East Belfast Road telephone Not Available

city, town Sparks state MD zip code 21152-9129

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 11752 folio 69

city, town Towson tax map 34 tax parcel 368 tax ID number 2100000164

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Contributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	Contributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	Noncontributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	Contributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	Noncontributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	Contributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	Contributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	Noncontributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	Contributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	Noncontributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	Contributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	Noncontributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	Contributing
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	Noncontributing

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

1

## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0415

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Fronting northwest, the Dr. J.W. Waugh House sits back from Belfast Road in the town of Sparks. The two-and-a-half story vernacular dwelling was constructed circa 1830 and features a circa 1880 Cottage Gothic Revival-style addition. The main block of the house is constructed of brick and features a side gable roof with wood shingles. The façade or northwest elevation features a one-story, four-bay wide front porch with a shed roof and chamfered wood posts. The original entry has been infilled with brick and the current entry is offset with a panel-and-light, single-leaf door with a molded wood surround and brick jack arch lintel. A six-light vinyl replacement casement window lies to the east of the door. At the second story, there are two 6/6 windows. Like the entry, the windows have molded wood surrounds and brick jack arch lintels. A center gable peak has been added to the roof of the main block. It is clad in variegated wood shingles and has a two-light fixed window with a pointed arch. The circa 1880 addition is constructed of wood frame with weatherboard cladding. The main entry of the house now sits in this addition along the northeast elevation. This entry, framed by a portico, features a panel-and-light, single-leaf door with four-light sidelights and an eight-light transom. Two interior brick chimneys with corbelled caps rise from the addition.

Historic outbuildings, dating from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, include a smokehouse, privy, and garage. The smokehouse, constructed of random rubble stone, is stucco-clad with a front gable roof of asphalt shingles. The façade features a single-leaf vertical board door and asphalt shingles in the gable end. The privy is a four-seat outhouse with German siding and a side gable roof of asphalt shingles. Set on a wood post foundation, the privy has been rehabilitated to serve as a doghouse. The wood frame garage is clad in board-and-batten siding with a front gable roof of standing seam metal. Two wood roll-up doors lead to the interior. A four-bay wide shed roof porch stands along on side of the garage.

There is also a non-historic tenant house that was constructed circa 1955. Set on a poured concrete foundation, the tenant house is clad in asbestos shingles and has a side gable roof of asphalt shingles.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0415

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

<b>Specific dates</b>	1830 ca.	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	Unknown
<b>Construction dates</b>	1830 ca., 1880 ca.		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Dr. J.W. Waugh House, constructed circa 1830, is located in the vicinity of Sparks and Philopolis in the Eighth District of Baltimore County. In 1850, Dr. M.C. Price occupied the original brick portion of the house. It was circa 1880 when the Gothic Revival style addition was constructed on the dwelling, most likely during the property's ownership by Dr. J.W. Waugh.<sup>1</sup> The village of Philopolis Post Office, was already beginning to thrive by the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. In addition to the boys' boarding school, there were numerous dwellings, a public schoolhouse, gristmill and a general store in the village.<sup>2</sup> Philopolis continued to grow rapidly, and by 1877, a tavern and two blacksmiths shops were established there.<sup>3</sup> By 1915, the village's name had fallen out of general use.<sup>4</sup> As early as 1850, the village of Sparks and the road that connected it to Philopolis, were non-existent. The land that later became the community, lying east of the Gunpowder Falls, was traversed only by a few farms.<sup>5</sup> By 1877, Sparks Road had been constructed from York Road in Philopolis to its terminus at Carroll Road. The village formed around the Sparks station along the Northern Central Railroad, and included only a school and a few dwellings along Sparks Road.<sup>6</sup> By 1915, a post office was established in the village.<sup>7</sup> The Sparks State Bank was erected in 1916.<sup>8</sup> By the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the village of Sparks had declined. The area has come to encompass the neighboring community of Philopolis. The name Blackacre was given to the building in 1946.

<sup>1</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850); see also *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

<sup>2</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

<sup>3</sup> *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

<sup>4</sup> *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

<sup>5</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

<sup>6</sup> *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

<sup>7</sup> *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

<sup>8</sup> Baltimore County Historic Inventory.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0415

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.  
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	4.5 Acres	
Acreage of historical setting	Unknown	
Quadrangle name	Hereford	Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The Dr. J.W. Waugh House is located at 621 East Belfast Road in Sparks in the Eighth District of Baltimore County. It has been associated with Tax Map 34, Parcel 368 since its construction circa 1830.

## 11. Form Prepared by

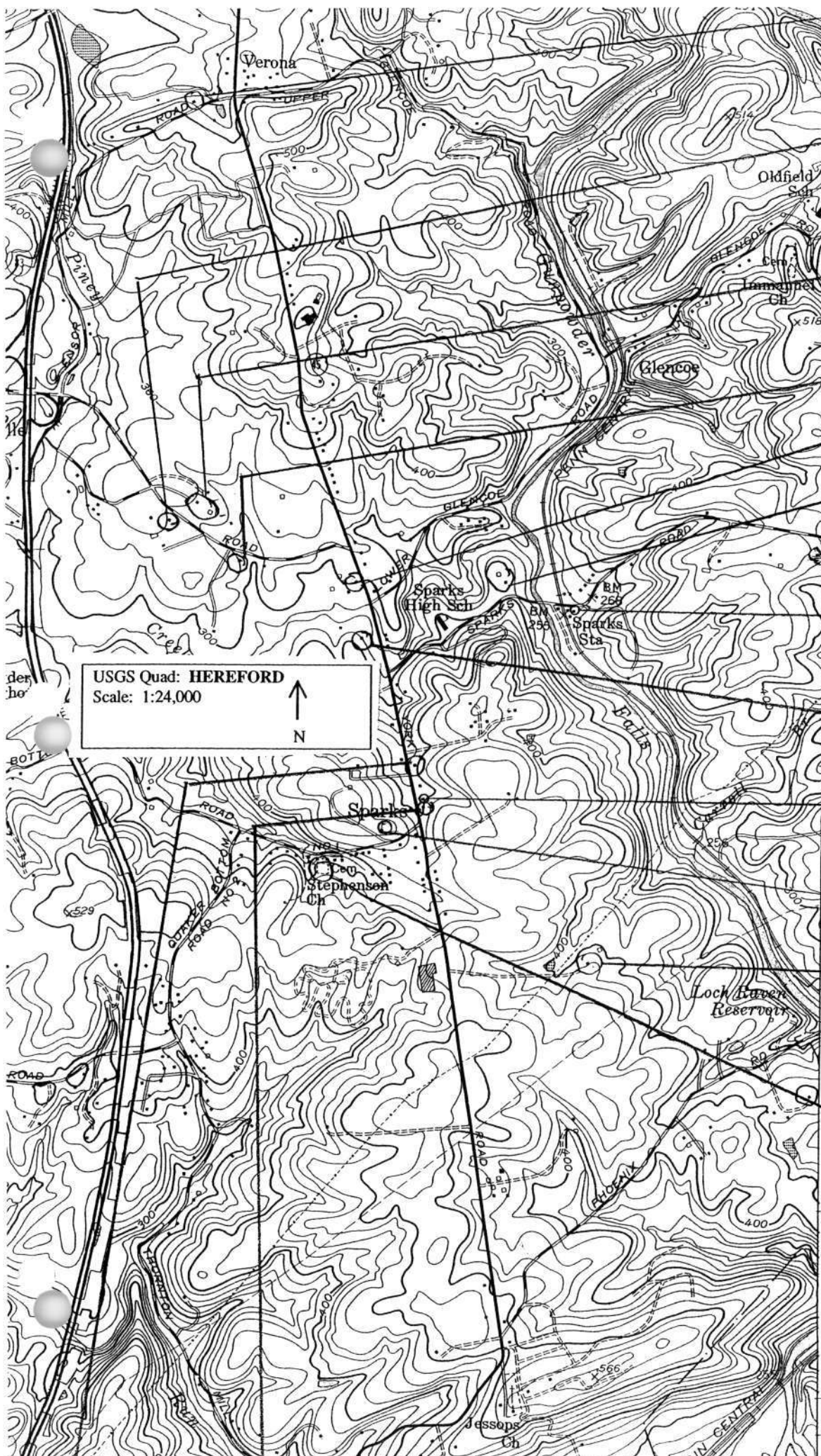
name/title	R. Weidlich, A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 30, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600





BA-0129

BA-0415  
621 E BELFAST ROAD  
SPARKS, BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0414  
600 E. BELFAST ROAD  
SPARKS  
BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0374  
707 E. BELFAST ROAD  
SPARKS, BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0375  
1512 YORK ROAD  
SPARKS, BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-0409  
1100 SPARKS ROAD  
SPARKS, BALTIMORE COUNTY

32/30/BA-0612

BA-2462  
1207 SPARKS ROAD

BA-0376  
15010 YORK ROAD  
SPARKS, BALTIMORE COUNTY

BA-1716  
14825 YORK ROAD

BA-0428  
7 STODDARD COURT

BA 266  
14611 YORK ROAD

BA-0427  
811 QUAKER BOTTOM ROAD  
SPARKS, BALTIMORE COUNTY

4375000m.N.

B M.



BA-415

621 E. BELFAST ROAD

SPARKS

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

APRIL 2001

MD SHPO

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

1 OF 3





BA-415

621 E. BELFAST ROAD  
SPARKS

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD  
TRACERIES

APRIL 2001

MD SHPD

NORTH CORNER

2 OF 3



BA-415

621 E. BELFAST ROAD

SPARKS

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

APRIL 2001

MD SHPO

OUTBUILDINGS

3 OF 3

BA- 415

**BLACKACRE** - c. 1852 - South side of Belfast Road, 0.5 mile west of York Road. Shown as Dr. J. W. Waugh's on 1877 atlas and as John Royston's in 1898 atlas. This house was commenced about 1852 and enlarged about 1892 with a Victorian section. Notable for the high ceilings and tall windows. Covered with aluminum siding. Cross-gable and verge boards. Excellent condition. Name "Black Acre" was selected in 1946 from English legal terminology and law school use. Former owner: Judge John Grayson Turnbull.